

02-12-07

*Dec*

BRINKS  
HOFER  
GILSON  
& LIONE *tw*

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 924791820 US  
Date of Deposit: February 9, 2007

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Appln. of: Hideki Ito  
Appln. No.: 10/726,354  
Filed: December 2, 2003  
For: KEYBOARD WITH KEY  
SUPPORTING STRUCTURE  
Attorney Docket No: 9281-4717 (J US02166)

Examiner: Friedhofer, M.A.  
Art Unit: 2832

Mail Stop Patent Ext.  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL**

Sir:

**Attached are:**

- ☒ Transmittal Letter (in duplicate); Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment (in duplicate) with attached Appendix A, B, and C.
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

**Fee calculation:**

- ☐ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ Small Entity.
- ☐ An extension fee in an amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for a \_\_\_\_\_-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
- ☐ A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(\_\_\_\_\_).
- ☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity			Not a Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$25=			x \$50=	
Indep.		Minus			x 100=			x \$200=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=			+\$360=	
					Total	\$		Total	\$

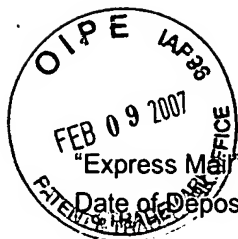
**Fee payment:**

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the Petition fee is enclosed.
- ☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$200.
- ☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Date 2/9/07

Respectfully submitted,

Gustavo Siller, Jr. (Reg. No. 32,305)



"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 924791820 US

Date of Deposit: February 9, 2007

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Appln. of: Hideki Ito

Appln. No.: 10/726,354

Filed: December 2, 2003

For: KEYBOARD WITH KEY  
SUPPORTING STRUCTURE

Attorney Docket No: 9281-4717 (J US02166)

Examiner: Friedhofer, M.A.

Art Unit: 2832

**PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Ext  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 10/726,354 has a patent term adjustment under 35 U.S.C. §154(b) of 0 days as indicated by the PAIR PTA adjustment history, herein attached as Exhibit A. U.S. Patent Application 10/726,354 is not subject to a terminal disclaimer. For the reasons stated herein, reconsideration of this patent term adjustment is respectfully requested.

**Period of adjustment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.703(b)**

The period of adjustment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.703(b) is the number of days in the period beginning on the day ("the 3 year date") after the date that is three years after the date on which the application was filed pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 111(a) or fulfilled the requirements pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 371.

The present application was filed on December 2, 2003 as indicated on the Filing Receipt, which is attached as Exhibit B. The 3 year date specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.703(b) is December 2, 2006. The mailing date of the Notice of Allowance is November 14, 2006. The Notice of Allowance is attached as Exhibit C. The difference between the 3 year date

(December 2, 2006) and the mailing date of Notice of Allowance (November 14, 2006) is 608 days.

Applicant's Attorney expects that additional non-overlapping delay can reasonably be expected prior to a patent issuing from the present application. Applicant's Attorney therefore requests re-computation of the period of adjustment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.703 upon identification of the date of issue of the patent of the present application to reflect this delay. With this request, Applicant's Attorney further reserves the right to request reconsideration of the patent term adjustment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.705(d) if the term of the issued patent is believed to be extended or adjusted incorrectly.

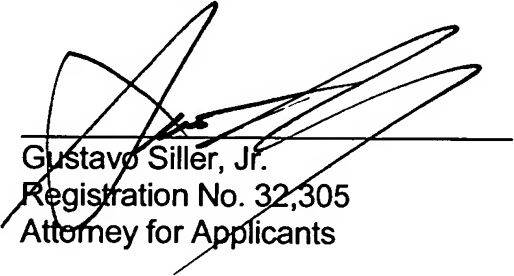
#### **Total Patent Term Adjustment**

For the present application, the total patent term adjustment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.703(f) is the adjustment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.703 reduced by the reduction under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704. The total adjustment is thus  $608 - 0 = \underline{608 \text{ days}}$ .

For the reasons stated herein, reconsideration of the patent term adjustment is respectfully requested pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.705(b). A check for \$200 covering the petition for PTA appeal is included. However, should any additional fee be required, please charge the fee or credit any excess fee paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this Petition is attached.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the patent term adjustment for this application. Office personnel are invited to contact the undersigned for Applicants via telephone if such communication would expedite this request.

Respectfully submitted,



Gustavo Siller, Jr.  
Registration No. 32,305  
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. BOX 10395  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610  
(312) 321-4200



# **EXHIBIT A**



Search results as of: 01-29-2007::12:15:34 E.T.

**Patent Term Adjustment**

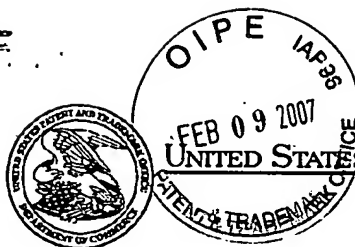
Filing or 371(c) Date:	12-02-2003	USPTO Delay (PTO) Delay (days):	0
Issue Date of Patent:	-	Three Years:	-
Pre-Issue Petitions (days):	+0	Applicant Delay (APPL) Delay (days):	0
Post-Issue Petitions (days):	+0	Total Patent Term Adjustment (days):	0
USPTO Adjustment(days):	+0	Explanation Of Calculations	

**Patent Term Adjustment History**

Date	Contents Description	PTO(Days)	APPL(Days)
11-14-2006	Mail Notice of Allowance		
11-13-2006	Notice of Allowance Data Verification Completed		
11-13-2006	Case Docketed to Examiner in GAU		
06-29-2006	Petition to Revive Application - Granted		
12-13-2004	Petition Entered		
07-27-2005	Miscellaneous Incoming Letter		
12-13-2004	Workflow incoming petition IFW		
11-30-2004	Mail Abandonment for Failure to Respond to Office Action		
11-24-2004	Abandonment for Failure to Respond to Office Action		
04-21-2004	Mail Non-Final Rejection		
04-15-2004	Non-Final Rejection		
03-11-2004	IFW TSS Processing by Tech Center Complete		
03-11-2004	Case Docketed to Examiner in GAU		
12-02-2003	Request for Foreign Priority (Priority Papers May Be Included)		
12-02-2003	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed		
03-10-2004	Transfer Inquiry to GAU		
03-02-2004	Application Return from OIPE		
03-02-2004	Application Return TO OIPE		
03-02-2004	Application Dispatched from OIPE		
03-03-2004	Application Is Now Complete		
02-10-2004	Cleared by OIPE CSR		
12-28-2003	IFW Scan & PACR Auto Security Review		
12-02-2003	Initial Exam Team nn		

[Close Window](#)

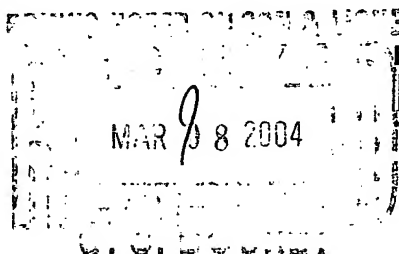
**EXHIBIT**  
**B**



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/726,354	12/02/2003	2832	770	9281-4717	6	7	1

Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione  
P.O. Box 10395  
Chicago, IL 60610



CONFIRMATION NO. 9020

**FILING RECEIPT**



OC000000012011557\*

Date Mailed: 03/03/2004

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

**Applicant(s)**

Hideki Ito, Fukushima-ken, JAPAN;

**Assignment For Published Patent Application**

Alps Electric Co., Ltd.;

**Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant**

**Foreign Applications**

JAPAN 2002-350993 12/03/2002  
JAPAN 2003-084969 03/26/2003

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 03/02/2004

Projected Publication Date: 06/10/2004

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

**Title**

Keyboard with key supporting structure

**EXHIBIT**  
**C**





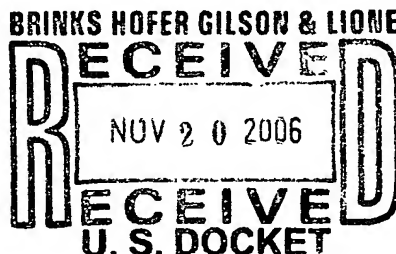
## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov



## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590 11/14/2006  
Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione  
P.O. Box 10395  
Chicago, IL 60610



EXAMINER	
FRIEDHOFFER, MICHAEL A	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2832  
DATE MAILED: 11/14/2006

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/726,354	12/02/2003	Hideki Ito	9281-4717	9020

TITLE OF INVENTION: KEYBOARD WITH KEY SUPPORTING STRUCTURE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1400	\$300	\$0	\$1700	02/14/2007

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

## HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

## I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.